

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 15, 2019

His Excellency Petro Poroshenko
President of Ukraine
Mariyinsky Palace
5A, Mykhaila Hrushevskoho St.
Kyiv, Ukraine 01008

Dear President Poroshenko:

We thank you for your service to Ukraine as President. We congratulate Ukrainian government institutions and the Ukrainian people for successfully conducting the recent presidential election, which by all accounts were free and fair, and demonstrated Ukraine's commitment to freedom, democracy, and the rule of law. Your leadership in ensuring the integrity of the election, especially during this historic period in Ukrainian history, has been particularly important. As you know, we both value the United States' partnership with Ukraine and the friendship between the people of our two nations.

We hope that you will now work closely with President-elect Volodymyr Zelensky to ensure a smooth transition into his new role. In the United States, we have a proud tradition whereby previous Presidents offer advice and counsel to the newly-elected President, regardless of party affiliation. With your counsel, we are hopeful that President-elect Zelensky can continue advancing Ukrainian democracy, integrating with European institutions, and defending the country against Russian aggression.

As this transition of power occurs, we also encourage your administration not to take any rushed actions regarding state-owned enterprises or other measures that would tie the hands of the incoming Zelensky administration. As you know, the U.S. Congress has particular concerns regarding Ukraine's energy sector, and we hope your administration will avoid actions that would impact Ukraine's gas supply as it pertains to upcoming gas contract negotiations with Russia. In addition, we are also concerned about the appointment of 75 new judicial nominees at the tail end of the administration and the signal that sends to Ukrainians.

We also would like to share our concerns about reports suggesting that Ukraine's current prosecutor general, in collaboration with President Trump's personal attorney, may have attempted to influence U.S. domestic political matters. Any such activities risk severely

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jeopardizing support for Ukraine in Congress. We sincerely hope that the U.S. – Ukraine relationship can remain free of politically charged allegations and remain focused on strengthening the mutually beneficial partnership.

Thank you for your contributions to Ukraine and Europe, and for your friendship to the United States. We in Congress have always deeply valued the friendship between Ukraine and the United States, and we will continue to support the strong relationship between our respective countries.

Sincerely,



STENY H. HOYER
House Majority Leader



ELIOT L. ENGEL
Chairman
House Foreign Affairs Committee